

Books, watches, notes or cell phones are not allowed. The only calculators allowed are the Sharp EL-531***. You must show all your work, the correct answer is worth 1 mark the remaining marks are given for the work.

Question 1.¹ (5 marks) Given that A and B are invertible with $B = B^T$, solve for matrix X , if possible. Your answer should be expressed as a single term.

$$B^T A X - A = (B - I)(B + I)A$$

$$B A X = [B^2 - B + B - I]A + A$$

$$B A X = [B^2 - I]A + A$$

$$B A X = B^2 A - A + A$$

$$B A X = B^2 A$$

$$(BA)^{-1}(BA)X = (BA)^{-1}B^2A$$

$$I X = A^{-1}B^{-1}B^2A$$

$$X = A^{-1}I B A$$

$$X = A^{-1}B A$$

Question 2. Determine whether the following statements are true or false for any $n \times n$ matrices A and B . If the statement is false provide a counterexample. If the statement is true provide a proof of the statement.

1. (3 marks) The sum of two invertible matrices of the same size must be invertible.

False. let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$, they are both invertible matrices since $ad-bc \neq 0$

But $A + B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ which is not invertible.

2. (3 marks) A square matrix A is idempotent if $A^2 = A$. If A is idempotent then A is singular or $A = I$. Hint: Its true! And prove it by contradiction.

premise: $A^2 = A$

conclusion A is singular or $A = I$

Let's prove by contradiction, suppose A is invertible and $A \neq I$.

$$\begin{aligned} A^2 &= A \\ AA &= A \\ A^{-1}AA &= A^{-1}A \\ IA &= I \\ A &= I \end{aligned} \quad \swarrow \text{since } A \neq I$$

$\therefore A$ is singular or $A = I$

¹from a past John Abbott final examination